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# AVIATION

AND  
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# AVIATION AND AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERING

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Vol. IX

AUGUST 15, 1939

No. 2

**I**f it not true there was a system of licensing aircraft in use in America? Now that the wartime ban is off civil flying there is nothing to prevent a person from putting his own and a number of other people's lives and property in unneeded danger.

Evening an airplane is admitted to be far safer than flying, yet no steps are taken by the state to make sure that a flier is competent before he is allowed to take a machine into the air, while it is to the universal protest that certain requirements must be fulfilled in order that a person may be permitted to drive a car. The skill and intelligence requisite in the two cases are not at all comparable, and the potential damage which can be done in the event of loss of control is also greater in the case of aircraft.

As at present constructed airplanes and airships are rapidly becoming as reliable vehicles as other automotive machines for transportation are. The conclusion is therefore reached that some sort of supervision should be maintained over aircraft by the state.

There are a number of ways in which control could be maintained. In the first place the machine should be structurally safe. In the early days of flying with the low-powered motors then available the quality of lightness was paramount in the structure. Very little structural engineering was applied to the designs and many weak structures and the inevitable crashes resulted. Today we take pride in our ability to determine the strength of an airplane with but a slight degree of uncertainty, and insistence of the structural factors of aircraft designed by a competent aeronautical engineer are rare. There should therefore be an difficulty in keeping this type of aircraft down to a small quantity. Reliability and maintainability are also well understood by the engineer and with proper precautions this source of danger may also be eliminated.

The remaining difficulty and the one which causes most of the crashes today is the failure of the power plant. The complexity and the high duty demanded of an aeronautical power plant both detract from its reliability but they are amenable to a large degree. However, much can be done in the way of requiring approval of gasoline and cooling systems and motors.

In the event that the government refuses to take these or steps to the same effect—namely to prevent purchases, give wages and the sum on the ground side—if it is to be feared that unneeded developments will result in a disorganized and even hostile attitude on the part of the general public toward aviation. The point is already being brought up in connection with aircraft insurance and we may hope for a correct solution of the problem by the measureous response in the establishment of something analogous to the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

### Constant Torque

Many attempts have been made to maintain constant torque in an unsupercharged internal combustion engine at altitude. Most of the methods tried fall into one or the other of two

classes. The first, supercharging, has been developed to a point where there is a certain measure of success in flight although the added mechanism is somewhat heavier and more susceptible than desirable.

The other is to increase the compression ratio at ground level beyond the value which will give best operating characteristics at that altitude. The compression will then fall at greater altitudes and expansion will improve until the best ratio is reached at the height for which the motor is designed. A corresponding gain in power will then be shown over a motor with the same displacement but lower compression. A modification of this method which shows a still greater improvement in power at altitude is to vary the compression ratio with the altitude by changing the length of stroke. Using this principle the optimum compression ratio can be obtained at all heights within limits imposed by the mechanical features of the device. A second result is the variation in displacement with stroke, which of course suggests the change.

With the latter method, the gain in power over the ordinary engine at 15,000 ft. is four times that obtainable with a constant compression motor of optimum compression. The weight of the stroke changing device is only 5 per cent of the engine weight, while the gain in power by its addition is 50 per cent, which is very much worth while.

### Helpfulness of the Wright Lecture

The Wilbur Wright Lecture by Commander Hunsaker will do much toward simplifying and crystallizing the design of the airplane in many important particulars. The approach to the lecture are a mass of information into which designers may delve with great benefit. The analysis of the data there presented is very well carried out, and the conclusions drawn carry more weight than generalizations arrived at from theoretical standpoint alone. In fact a common sense attitude is maintained throughout the paper.

In the introduction of the conception of aerodynamic height to airplane model tests, a very useful method for interpreting and analyzing the vector motion effect on stability has been clearly explained. Much has been written on this subject but little has been stated in a form so vivid to the engineer as by the use of aerodynamic.

Control surface areas are necessarily designed by empirical coefficients, and a mass of data on this important subject has been put in a form of great value to the designer. It is rather interesting to note the slow advance in this particular branch of aeronautics. Indications of the method rather than an advance in theory mark the progress.

Although there has been only a moderate amount of airplane construction carried out in this country, it is pleasing to note from the published literature of the day that there is a live interest being shown here in this branch of aeronautics. Those who may have apprehensions that we are not following the development of this type of craft may take some comfort from the attention given to the subject by Commander Hunsaker.







THREE-QUARTER REAR VIEW OF THE PACIFIC NAVY COMMERCIAL AIRPLANE

gal tank is mounted back of the rear seat. The gasoline is circulated from the main tanks to the power tanks in the motor section by two air driven pumps. Each motor, with gas tanks etc., is an independent unit. The landing gear is of a two wheel type with the wheels under the motor and the landing struts are taken through the motor sections. The axle is hinged to the fuselage to take the side thrust, 20 lb. 8 in. wheels are used. The tail skid is made of rubber cord and the tail skid mounting is of tubular construction, designed to distribute stress evenly to the four legs.

The stabilizer is built of wood and has a width of 34 ft. and depth of 4 ft. 3 in. The elevator is built of wood and has an overall width of 15 ft. and 3 ft. depth. The fin and rudders are built of steel tubing. Overall dimensions of the machine are: 60 in. x 38 in.

Two Curtiss OX-5 engines with 8 ft. 4 in. by 5 ft. 6 in. pitch propellers are used. Free air radiation are mounted over the motors.

## N. A. C. A. Reports

RESULTS OF TESTS OF RADIALS FOR AIRCRAFT ENGINES. Synopsis of Report No. 55, National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics.

Part I shows in tables and curves the results of measurements of geometrical characteristics of 58 types of radiators, together with such physical properties as heat transfer, head resistance, air flow through the core, power absorbed, and figure of merit. In most cases, the properties are shown for speeds ranging up to 159 m.p.h.

The terms used in describing the radiators and their performance are defined, the more evident relations between the properties and characteristics are stated, and applications of the results to the design of a radiator are pointed out.

It is shown that the most efficient type of radiator tested, for use at high speeds and mounted in "nonobstructive" position in the aircraft, is one whose water tubes are flat hollow tubes, placed edge-wise to the air stream, and continuous from front to rear of the radiator.

Part II shows in curves the pressure heads required to produce given rates of flow of water in twelve sections of radiator, each of a different type, briefly described and shown in photographs, and each with a core 8 inches square. The methods used in the tests and in computation are stated in detail, and a method is described for estimating, by the use of twelve sets of auxiliary curves, the pressure head required for a given rate of water flow in each type of radiator, when, at any rate, on the assumption that losses of head at inlet and outlet of the water tubes are negligible in comparison with the resistance to the tubes of the 8-inch sections.

STABILITY OF THE PARACHUTE AND HELICOPTER. Synopsis of Report No. 56, National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics.

This report deals with the mathematical theory of the stability of bodies normally travelling vertically, especially with aircraft averted about a vertical axis, as is the case with the ordinary parachute. The treatment is based on the method of Bryan and Doubodine. It is pointed out that the parachute may have a compound motion of a complex form, and some of these conditions are illustrated. The conditions of stability are followed, and rules are given to show when it is possible to predict the degree of stability for any parachute for which the resistance and rotary derivatives and other characteristics have been determined by wind tunnel tests or otherwise.

THE PARKER VARIOUS CORNER RIG. Synopsis of Report No. 71, National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics.

The purpose of this report is to describe the work done by Mr. H. F. Parker in the development of a wing permitting of variation of the number and having wider range of usefulness than is possible at a single section. The Parker considers two sets of diagonal wings, one of which is normally stowed, and a considerable motion is possible between the extreme positions where the two sets of diagonals become fixed. The report describes studies made for strength on the constructed in this manner. These tests were very satisfactory, the air comparing favorably in strength with those built up rigidly in the ordinary way. A series of aerodynamic tests on sections of the various forms which the Parker wing would assume in passing from one extreme position to the other are also included; the wings having been tested on rectangular and in tapered and trapezoidal combinations of various types. The maximum lift coefficient for the Parker wing at an high-lift setting was 71, while the maximum drag coefficient for a wing of the form which the Parker wing has with the other set of diagonals fixed (the form then being approximately symmetrical about a center line) was 307. The sets of maximum lift to maximum drag coefficient was therefore conspicuously high.

Copies of this report may be obtained upon request from the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, Washington, D. C.

THE LANDING VELOCITY OF FALLING FROM A GREAT HEIGHT. Synopsis of Report No. 78, National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics.

Report No. 78, entitled "The Landing Velocity in Falling from a Great Height," by Professor E. D. Wilson, deals with the velocity in falling bodies when the variation in air density with height is taken into account. It is shown that bodies need to diverge from constant altitude in order that they may reach a maximum velocity before striking the ground.

## Duralumin

By E. Unger and E. Schmidt

The use of duralumin in the construction of aircraft makes an account of the properties of this material desirable especially with reference to its working qualities as developed by experience.

Composition, Specific Gravity and Melting Point. Duralumin is made in various compositions and has, with the exception of small quantities of impurities, the following composition:

Aluminum	90.5 to 93.5 per cent
Magnesium	5 to 8 per cent
Copper	3.5 to 5.5 per cent
Manganese	0.5 to 2 per cent
Lead, tin and iron which, as is well known, have an unfavorable influence upon the permanence of aluminum alloys, are not found in duralumin.	



Fig. 5.

The specific gravity of duralumin varies according to composition and hardness from 2.75 to 2.84. The melting point is about 550 deg. cent.

TABLE I.

Applied gas composition	Direction	Method of Properties	Elongation (in. per in.)	Tensile strength (kg. per sq. cm.)	Compression (in. per in.)	Modulus of elasticity (kg. per sq. cm.)	Surface finish
50 to 50	longitudinal only	tempered	35 to 38	51 to 52	50	about 100,000	Tubes, plates, sheets, forgings, castings
50 to 50	2.5% brass	tempered and cold rolled	50	57 to 62	1.0 to 1.5	100,000	Tubes, plates, sheets, forgings, castings
50 to 50	tempered only	tempered	35 to 37	50 to 52	50 to 52	100,000	Tubes, plates, sheets, forgings, castings
50 to 50	brass	tempered and cold rolled	50 to 52	54 to 56	51 to 52	—	Tubes, plates, sheets, forgings, castings
50 to 50	longitudinal only	tempered	35 to 38	51 to 52	1.0 to 1.5	100,000	Tubes, plates, sheets, forgings, castings
50 to 50	brass	tempered and cold rolled	50 to 52	54 to 56	51 to 52	—	Tubes, plates, sheets, forgings, castings
50 to 50	longitudinal only	tempered	35 to 37	50 to 52	50 to 52	100,000	Tubes, plates, sheets, forgings, castings
50 to 50	brass	tempered and cold rolled	50 to 52	54 to 56	51 to 52	—	Tubes, plates, sheets, forgings, castings
50 to 50	longitudinal only	tempered	35 to 37	50 to 52	1.0 to 1.5	100,000	Tubes, plates, sheets, forgings, castings
50 to 50	brass	tempered and cold rolled	50 to 52	54 to 56	51 to 52	—	Tubes, plates, sheets, forgings, castings

Duralumin is made under the name in Germany by the Deutsche Metallwerke, Duerren (H.M.), and under the name of Duralumin by Carl Guss, Erben (Wunst.).

Translated from *Flugtechnik*, Vol. 211, Section 5, by Dr. W. Unger, and Dr. E. Schmidt, D. U. S. E. E. E. E. E.

## Working of Duralumin

Like other metals, duralumin can be rolled into plates and sheets and behaves in a similar manner, in that the elongation decreases as the hardness of rolling increases. Tubes blanks, however, can be made only by pressing and not by elliptical rolling method.

Fig. 1 shows the increase in tensile strength and decrease in elongation of a duralumin plate as its thickness is reduced by cold rolling from 7 mm. to 2 mm. The elongation increases from 43 kg. to about 54 kg. per sq. mm., while the elongation

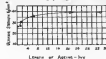


Fig. 2.

falls from 25.7 to 2.5 per cent. The curve shows that the elongation decreases very rapidly with the very first reduction in thickness.

However, duralumin can be worked hot at a temperature of

## Tempering

Duralumin can be tempered, like steel, by heating and cooling. For this purpose plates, tubes, and sheets are heated to between 300 deg. and 315 deg. and quenched. Then aged, that is, the treated material is simply set aside. The original strength characteristics are very nearly restored after the quenching but the tensile strength continues to grow with

the time of aging, from 35 to 55 kg. per sq. mm. The elongation does not decrease but remains at least the same and usually increases slightly. It is possible the greatest strength is reached after about five days of aging.

When heated to over 550 deg. cent. duralumin becomes

variable. Consequently the testing is carried on in a bath of sodium whose temperature can be carefully regulated and watched. During the opening of the metal work cannot be done on it which would change the section so in that case the strength will not increase any more. After the completion of aging, the material can be re-rolled in order to obtain smooth surfaces. The strength is thereby increased at the expense of elongation.

Fig 3 shows the increase of strength during aging. The tensile strength were determined by the Brinell test with a 305 kg. coefficient. This value was obtained from the experiments described below.

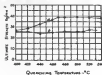


Fig 3

Experiments have been made (see Fig 3) by the Dureman-Metallwerke to determine the most favorable quenching temperature. The curve "a" shows the variation in the strength of duralumin which had been aged for four days with the variation of quenching temperature. Curve "b" shows the strength immediately after the quenching. The strengths were determined in both cases by the Brinell test.

As the material may warp in tempering it is not good practice to temper riveted parts. Each part should be tempered before they are riveted.



BRINELL TEST APPARATUS

Fig 4

#### Strength Properties

Duralumin is delivered in various compositions which have different properties according to the purpose for which it is intended to be used. It is therefore important that the concrete supplying the material should be informed regarding the nature of the working proposed. In Table I below are assembled the strength figures of some duralumin compositions made by the Dureman Metallwerke.

The modulus of elasticity of the hard tempering B14

was found by the Technische Hochschule Aachen to be 790,000 kg. per sq. cm. Making allowance for the possible effect of variations on the modulus of elasticity it appears better to use not more than 600,000 kg. per sq. cm. in calculations.

In judging the suitability of a material for use in stressed parts not only the tensile strength but also the ductility is of great importance. This can be determined by bending strips backward and forward through 180 deg. over a definite radius—usually 5 to 10 mm.—the number of bends before fracture being taken as a comparison. Other measurements as to the ductility can be obtained from the Brinell test (see Fig 4). The plate to be tested is pressed through a ring, A, by a head, B, until a tear shows on the upper surface of the sheet. The depth of the impression is then a measure of the ductility.

In Table II these are compared against values, number of bends (over 5 mm. radius and through 180 deg.) and depth of impression as observed on Duremanall plates and steel plates of equal thickness.

Although the strength values of the steel plates are less than those of the duralumin plates, nevertheless the latter compare the figure as to "number of bends" and depth of impression without correction, since it is possible to obtain steel plate with higher strength which also possesses great ductility.

The number of bends (see Fig 5) for both metals decreases with increased thickness. For steel, however, they are considerably higher than duralumin. The difference is least for plates under 3 mm. in thickness. For thicker plates of duralumin the number of bends decreases very rapidly. At plate 3 mm. thick breaks over a 90 deg. bend, a plate 4 mm. thick over a 45 deg. bend. For these results duralumin might be referred to as "not strong" for thicknesses greater than 3 mm. The property makes it suitable for lightly stressed parts which

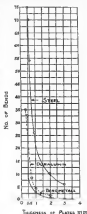
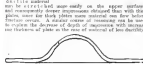


Fig 5

most of the same in connection with the best leg plates which are infinitely used in aircraft for taking wing stresses. In these legs rivets are used during flight which would reduce the strength of the duralumin and might cause sudden fracture.

Nearly low velocities reduce the modulus of elasticity but not yet less deterioration of strength, although examples along this line are already under way. A comparison of the depth of impression of steel and duralumin shows (see Fig 6) that for steel the depth of impression increases with the thickness of the material while for duralumin it decreases. As a result of a peculiarity of the testing the greatest stress occurred at a point which was from 5 mm. to 8 mm. from the center of the depression. In this vicinity the material began to flow before cracking. It is obvious that plates of duralumin material may be stretched more easily on the upper surfaces and consequently deeper impressions obtained than with steel plates, since for thick plates more material now flows before fracture occurs. A similar course of reasoning can be used to explain the decrease of depth of impression with increasing thickness of plate in the case of material of less ductility.

Fig 6

Fig 7  
STEEL PLATEFig 8  
DURALUMIN PLATE

On the upper surface of the test pieces there occur high tensile stresses, at the point shown, which increase with the strength of the plate. As the material flows only to a small

degree, cracks very soon appear and extend into the interior. The greatest stresses can be observed on the surface of a steel plate of about 40 kg. per sq. cm. strength and a duralumin plate, Fig 8. The flow before fracture of the steel plate is plainly recognizable while the duralumin plate shows hardly a sign of it.

Fig 9  
OUTSIDE FRACTURE OF DURALUMIN PLATE

Fig 9 is a photograph of a test sample of strong duralumin plate after fracture in which the internal ductility split in all directions.

For flanging and pressing tempered duralumin is consequently suitable only in the test range.

#### Influence of HEAT and COLD

Heat has an important influence on the strength of duralumin. According to the results obtained in tests by the Central Bureau for Scientific Investigation, Nuremberg, when heated the strength decreases 30 per cent for an increase in temperature of 100 deg. and about 50 per cent for an increase of 150 deg. (see Fig 10). The loss in strength increases with the increase of temperature. The elongation increases on first heating to a barely appreciable extent, while between 150 and 200 deg. it decreases. At 200 deg. the show-

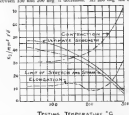


Fig 10

plate becomes the same as at room temperature. With further heating the elongation increases with increasing temperature. Consequently wherever duralumin is exposed to heat the possible decrease of strength must always be considered.

As opposed to the foregoing, the influence of cooling on the strength properties is less noticeable. The Central Bureau for Scientific Investigation has made tests on this (see Table III).

TABLE III.

Influence of Cold on the Strength of Duralumin

Tempera- ture	The bar was held in	Limit of elastic strength	Tensile strength (kg./sq. cm.)	Elongation per cent	Impact strength (kg./sq. cm.)
+ 35°	Air	54.5	45.5	21.0	3.0
0	Boiler	53.8	45.5	20.8	2.8
- 10	Mixture of snow and table salt	54.0	46.7	22.1	3.7
- 40	Mixture of snow and crushed charcoal	54.0	44.0	22.5	5.7
- 60	C.O. snow	53.5	46.4	22.7	5.7
- 100	Liquid air	53.0	55.7	23.7	4.5
- 120	Air	53.0	55.2	23.8	5.4

TABLE IV.

Effect of Weathering on the Strength of Duralumin

Tempera- ture After test	Days Exposed	Strength kg./sq. cm.	Elongation per cent	Strength kg./sq. cm.	Elongation per cent	Strength kg./sq. cm.	Elongation per cent
Boiler bar	41.5	50	21.5	50	22	49.5	19.5
Bar (1000)	29.5	50	22.7	49.5	22.5	49	20
Bar (1000)	42.0	50	22.7	49.5	22.5	49.5	19.5
Wire (1000)	49.5	50.1	22	49.5	22.5	49.5	19.5
Wire (1000)	49.5	50	22	49.5	22.5	49.5	19.5

The strength and elongation increase somewhat with the decrease in temperature. The work represented by the blow in the impact tests is not decreased when the material is affected by cold, so that one can safely assume that the cold encountered in flight has no unfavorable influence on duralumin.

Experiments on the influence of weathering on the strength of duralumin, which have been carried on by the Detsky Metalworks for three years, have shown that an appreciable decrease in the strength properties can be noticed (see Table IV).

The Detsky Metalworks have also carried on for about a year, experiments on the influence of the electrolytic effect from rustions of duralumin with iron or steel. These were made by placing duralumin bars to steel plates and then placing them in artificial sea water. There resulted only an insignificant destruction of the iron and a reduction in weight of the bars of about 25 per cent so that on considerations laid against the use of duralumin and iron, questions in general.

#### Summary

Duralumin has a strength of 55 to 48 kg. per sq. cm. and an elongation of 20 to 25 per cent. The stretching strain limit has very high, about 30 to 35 kg. per sq. cm. The modulus of elasticity is about 800,000 to 700,000 kg. per sq. cm. It is very brittle, especially so thicknesses above 1 mm., and consequently sensitive to breaking in and (in) (alternating).

Heat plate fittings, with heat loss which must mean vibrations, are best not made out of duralumin but of steel sheet. For stressed parts which, while in flight, are exposed to an increase in temperature of more than 100 deg. Cent., the use of duralumin is absolutely useless a correspondingly much strength value is used in calculations. Cold has no harmful influence on duralumin. The joint between iron and steel and duralumin can be made with electrolytic action occurring. From, which for better working need be heated, must be in all cases re-tempered after completion.

#### Book Review

APPROPRIATE STRUCTURES. By A. J. S. Pippard and J. L. Pippard. With Illustrations and Diagrams. (360 Pages) Longmans, Green and Co., Fourth Ave. & 30 St., New York. With the publication of this book the first comprehensive work dealing with the subject of strength calculations of airplanes is now available to airplane designers. The whole subject of the structure of the airplane is treated from the strength standpoint primarily but an adequate discussion of all directly related factors is included.

The thoroughness with which the structure is handled reflects the enormous advance made in the structural technique of the airplane. It may be safely said that the problem, difficult as it is, of providing sufficient strength with minimum weight has been placed on an engineering basis, and that the aeronautical engineer will be able to keep pace with the new types of construction being developed. The subject of metal construction has not here gone into in the present work, but much of the subject matter is applicable to the newer forms of construction as well as to the conventional wood structure. A discussion of the secondary stresses produced in thin metal sections would round out the volume.

The treatment is well adapted to the needs of both student and engineer. A number of points of the theories are given and although the calculations are difficult in places for deriving new ones, the results are in such form that they may be applied easily.

The book is well illustrated, although the types of construction shown are naturally limited.

Details of construction are carefully considered, and useful methods of design given. Stress design is treated fully including the effect of taper and rounding.

Perhaps the best part of the volume is that which treats of loads imposed on various parts of the machine under all the important conditions in which an airplane is subject. The discussion includes the load factors which should be used for various types of machines.

Two chapters are devoted to strength tests of materials and structures. The method of test work is becoming of frequent use and is explained in a simple manner.

The book is well written and is a valuable addition to the literature of aeronautical engineering.

## Model Test for Strength and Deformation of Non-Rigid Airship Hulls

By Conde, J. C. Hunsaker, C. C., U. S. N.

Suppose the model filled with water of buoyancy in air—200 kg. per cu. m.—and the ship filled with hydrogen of a buoyancy equal to 1.1 kg. per cu. m.

Suppose the model made of some fabric as the ship.

Suppose the model scale  $\frac{1}{n}$ , which gives the same relation

deformation as the ship, that is, the model, when deformed, is geometrically similar to the deformed ship.

Suppose the model subject to an inner pressure such that the intensity of stress at corresponding points of model and ship are equal.

Overcome Airships. Call mean resultant parallel and intersections with plane through axis of rotation, meridian.



At any point of ship's envelope there are two radii of curvature  $r_1$  in the parallel and  $r_2$  in the meridian as shown in the figure. If the pressure at this point is  $p$ , the tension in the fabric are—

$$p = \frac{t_1}{r_1} = \frac{t_2}{r_2}$$

This equation is indeterminate because containing two unknowns  $t_1$  and  $t_2$ , but tension in a parallel is given by—

$$t_1 = \frac{2 \pi r_1 \sin \alpha \cdot p}{2 \pi r_1 \sin \alpha} = \frac{2 \pi r_1 \sin \alpha \cdot p}{2 \pi r_1 \sin \alpha} \quad (1)$$

where  $\alpha$  is slope of tangent to a meridian at this point. Hence  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  are determined as linear functions of the radii of curvature, the pressure, and slope of the meridian—

$$t_1 = \frac{2 \pi r_1 \sin \alpha \cdot p}{2 \pi r_1 \sin \alpha} \quad (2)$$

For corresponding points on model and ship,  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  are constant. Hence for the same tension on both, the pressures must vary inversely as the radii of curvature or as  $\alpha$ .

The model has, therefore, a lower pressure  $p$  of the ship, and the problem becomes that of ascertaining that pressure without in practice shall hold for all points, or that—

$$p' = p \cdot \frac{r_1}{r_2} \quad (3)$$

Pressure Relations.—The buoyancy of hydrogen is air is 20 kg. per cu. m. and if the pressure at lowest point of balloon is  $p_1$  in kg. per sq. m., the pressure at a point  $x$  meters above it is  $p = p_1 - 1.1x$ .

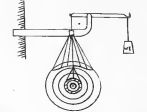
In the water-filled model, being spinned down on the suspension, let us have a head of water as shown in Fig. 1, such that

the pressure on the belly in air, that is, a head of water given by—

$$x = \frac{p_1}{1.1} \quad (4)$$

and the pressure  $p'$  at any point  $x$  corresponding to  $p$  is given by—

$$p' = \frac{p_1}{1.1} \cdot \frac{r_1}{r_2} \quad (5)$$



$p' = 1000 (x + R) \cdot \frac{r_1}{r_2} \quad (6)$

and solving for  $x$ , we have—

$$x = \frac{p_1}{1.1} \cdot \frac{r_1}{r_2} \cdot \frac{1}{p} \quad (7)$$

The problem is therefore solved by making a water-filled

model to scale  $\frac{1}{n}$  and giving it a head of water above its

highest point (belly) of  $x = 80000p_1 \cdot \frac{r_1}{r_2}$ . The pressure on

ship  $p_1$  may be assumed given by a head or column of gas  $g$ , determined by—

$$p_1 = 1.1g \quad (8)$$

Then by (6) and (7),—

$$p' = \frac{1000x}{1.1} \cdot \frac{r_1}{r_2} \quad (9)$$

and from (8),—

$$x = 80000p_1 \cdot \frac{r_1}{r_2} \quad (10)$$

The head of water must then be  $\frac{1}{30.15}$  the head of hydro-

gen assumed for the ship. The pressure  $p_1$  is ordinarily about 20 kg. per sq. m., which is an equivalent pressure length or head of gas of  $g = 18.2$  m. The head of water  $x$  will therefore be about 69.3 m.

In practice the necessary pressure  $p_1$  to hold the balloon stiff will be found by calculation from the necessary head of water  $x$  found by experiment to hold the model stiff.





# Wind Tunnel and Airship Model Testing

By R. N. Wing

Aeronautical Engineer, Cadillac Tires and Rubber Co.

The information obtained from wind tunnel tests on models of complete airplanes, airships and their various parts has been of almost value in the rapid development of aircraft during the last decade.

The purpose of wind tunnel testing is to investigate the action of the air around bodies moving through it and to measure the resulting air forces or resistance upon bodies under various conditions. The fundamental principle upon which wind tunnel testing is based is that of "body in motion," which is, briefly, that the reaction between a body and the air is the same in either case as the body is moved through still air or in a certain speed or whether the body is held stationary, and a stream of air of same relative velocity and direction impinges upon the body.

**Methods of Deriving Wind Tunnel Testing.**  
Before going into a detailed description of the wind tunnel, let us consider briefly the various methods of obtaining aerodynamic data, namely the flying method, the weighing one and the wind tunnel. We will not here consider the testing of the full size machines in actual flight, but each test should be taken advantage of by obtaining the other methods whenever possible.

(1) **Towing Method.** This method, used at the Aerotechnic Institute of St. Cyr, France, permits the testing of full size airplanes and even full size airships. The apparatus consists of an elevator car which is operated by a cable, which runs one mile long and where which are supported the surface to be tested and the measuring instruments.

The main disadvantage of this method is the inability to change still air and it is practically impossible to test under exactly the same conditions as the wind is very to change somewhat in direction or velocity. Because of the high speeds of test, the resulting shock waves of flow for experimental observation reduce the precision of the results.

(2) **Weighing One.** This method is used by the Vickers Co. of London in testing propellers. The apparatus consists of a large scale of 100 tons, which is placed on a vertical axis. The model is tested at the outer end of the revolving arm. The measuring instruments have to take care of the centrifugal force. A large weighing house the apparatus. Due to the small scale of the model, the results will be of value in testing the stability of an airplane model which is relatively stable only in a circular path of a certain radius of curvature.

(3) **Wind Tunnel.** This apparatus consists of a channel through which air is drawn at a known velocity by means of an exhaust fan or propeller. The wooden or metallic model to be tested is mounted in this channel upon an aerodynamic balance by means of which the various air pressures are accurately measured, namely lift or drag, which is the horizontal component of the resultant air reaction parallel to the direction of flow through the channel; and drag, which is the component normal to the direction of flow, and the forward movement (yawing or pitching), which is the moment produced by the resultant air forces tending to turn the model about its point of support.

Direct measure or drift can also be obtained in a wind tunnel by expanding the model by means of wires and coating the deflection.

**Advantages of Wind Tunnel.**  
The main advantages of the wind tunnel over other methods of testing are—

1. A convenient, permanent, and relatively inexpensive method of obtaining valuable data for use in the proper design, analysis and performance prediction of all types of aircraft.
2. The ability to produce a steady wind and to control its velocity and direction for any period of time as is necessary for accurate observations.
3. The possibility of measuring the air flow in the vicinity of the model and of determining the pressure at any point along the surface of the model.
4. The ability to repeat the conditions of a test at any time in order to check results.

## Principal Types of Wind Tunnels

There are three distinct types of wind tunnels, namely: (a) N. P. L. (National Physical Laboratory) of Great Britain, (b) U. S. N. P. L. (National Physical Laboratory) of Great Britain, (c) U. S. N. P. L. (National Physical Laboratory) of Great Britain.

(a) **N. P. L. Type.** This type tunnel consists of a large uniformly square cross section channel, in which the model is supported upon the vertical spindle of the aerodynamic balance which projects up through the bottom of the tunnel. The remainder of the balance is located below the tunnel, where the support for the model is located. A bell shaped collector is attached to the mouth of the channel, and horizontal sections of wood are located on the inside of the mouth in order to discharge out the air flow and make it parallel to the sides. At some distance beyond the working or testing portion of the square channel it expands into a large circular section in which the motor or collector blower is located. This propeller can be driven by means of a belt connected to a motor bench. Beyond the propeller is a large diffusing chamber, the outer top and bottom of which are of lattice work in order to allow the velocity to be gradually dissipated. This tunnel is located in a separate room or building so that the air discharged from the diffuser is again drawn into the collector. Wind tunnels of this type are used by the Aerotechnic Institute of Toulon, the Curtiss Aeroplane & Motor Corp., the Washington Navy Yard and the University of Washington. The wind speed used obtained is a 4 ft. N. P. L. type tunnel with a 15 hp. electric motor is about 30 m.p.h. The Curtiss Aeroplane Laboratory, by using a 100 hp. custom motor-driven propeller, obtains a range of velocity from 30 to 75 m.p.h.

(b) **Göttingen.** This type differs from the N. P. L. and U. S. N. P. L. tunnels in that it provides a closed nozzle, the testing portion of the channel being a square section. It has been extensively used for testing airplane lifts. The Göttingen tunnel is 3 ft. 6 in. square and a wind velocity of 25 m.p.h. is obtained with a 30 hp. electric motor driving a blower.

The large wind tunnel of the U. S. Navy Department is an 8 ft. square tunnel of this type and is operated by means of a 500 hp. electric motor driving a motion blower. A wind velocity of 75 m.p.h. may be obtained, but tests are generally made at a speed of about 60 m.p.h. Models of both airplanes and airships are tested in this tunnel.

(c) **Anglo.** This type consists of a circular bell shaped collector which is attached to the experimental chamber to the motor blower. The tunnel is located in a large room and the air from this room is drawn into the bell shaped collector which it passes through a long narrow duct in straight line flow, across the experimental chamber with a uniform velocity into the expanding trunk, from which the motion blower discharges it at a low velocity back into the room.

The large Anglo tunnel has a 5 ft. 6 in. diameter air stream and a 50 hp. motor, driving a blower, can produce velocities from 4 to 75 m.p.h.

The Curtiss 2 ft. wind tunnel at Garden City, Long Island, of this type is operated by a 400 hp. Liberty motor driven driving a three blade 15 ft. diameter propeller, and velocities from 30 to 80 m.p.h. are obtained.

The famous 5 ft. 6 in. tunnel of the University, Liverpool, and the testing propeller models, is also of the Anglo type, and a wind velocity of 40 m.p.h. is obtained by means of a 50 hp. motor-driven motor, belt-driven a propeller.

## Apparatus

The wire suspension method requires the least expensive apparatus for the direct resistance of a model. This consists of two long fine steel wires for suspending the model, two horizontal wires with a ring at the middle of each one to slip over a small rod at each end of the model to connect the wires. A horizontal and vertical rod for turning and yawing, a telescope to measure the backward deflection of model, a means of determining the weight of the model and a

measuring tape for obtaining the length of the suspension. Two extra steel wires, under to the suspension wires, are necessary for obtaining the correction due to the resistance of the suspension wires.

The aerodynamic balance embodies the mechanical principle of moment. It consists of a vertical arm and two horizontal arms at right angles to each other, and is free to pivot about horizontal knife edges or else a single point. The model to be tested is fastened to the top of the vertical arm and balance weights are moved out on the horizontal arms exactly the same as any weighing scale, in order to balance the air force on the model. The model and lighter arms are mounted on knife edges restricting the motion of the model to either backward or else sideward motion, one of a kind. The balance is the Curtiss 2 ft. tunnel works as a point so that the lift and the drift are both measured at the same time.

For measuring the "turning moment" the apparatus is made free to turn or rotate about its vertical axis. Another horizontal arm connected to the vertical one operates a small angle indicator, or weighing scale which measures the turning moment directly in lb.

Wind velocity is measured by means of a Pitot tube or else a Kallé gauge which has been calibrated with a standard Pitot tube.

- (d) Pressure distribution on model.
- (e) Small copper tubing embedded on the surface of the model.

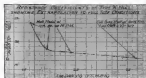


Fig. 1

is connected to a manometer by means of flexible tubing. Very small holes drilled in the copper tube connect to the surface of model, permit the measurement of the pressure distribution along the model. During an observation all holes connecting the one in question are plugged up with wax.

## Results

**Standard Conditions.** The results of all wind tunnel tests are reduced to a standard condition of 35 deg. Cent. and 760 mm. Hg. in order that they may be used and compared directly, without knowing the specific test conditions.

**Coefficients.** These can be expressed directly in pounds, drift and lift and such pounds turning moment on the model itself, but it is more convenient to have them expressed as coefficients, in order to apply them to full size ships and for comparison of the aerodynamic characteristics of various shapes.

The form of these coefficients depends upon the use of the bodies. For instance, in an airplane where the lift and drift occur with the level of the wings, other coefficients for measuring contrast, the lift and drift coefficients are expressed in terms of area by following formulas:

$$K_L = \frac{L}{AV^2} \quad (1)$$

$$K_D = \frac{D}{AV^2} \quad (2)$$

where  $K_L$  and  $K_D$  are respectively the lift and drift coefficients,  $L$  is the lift,  $D$  the drag,  $A$  the area of the wing in sq. ft., and  $V$  the velocity in m.p.h.

In an airship, where the lift or buoyancy varies directly with the volume, the resistance coefficient should be expressed in terms of volume as in the following formula:

$$C = \frac{R}{V} \quad (3)$$

where  $C$  = resistance in lb.,  
 $R$  = resistance of gravity in lb./sq. ft. = 32.2  
 $V$  = volume of air in cu. ft.  $R = 32.2$  under standard conditions,  
 $V$  = volume in cu. ft.,  
 $V$  = velocity in ft./sec.

This makes  $C$  a non-dimensional coefficient.

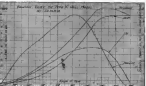


Fig. 2

## Model to Full Size

In order to make the results of model tests more nearly applicable to the full size machines or parts, it is now common to correct the results from the model to full size conditions as possible and then to plot these coefficients against the  $V_L$  ratio, where  $V_L$  is velocity and  $L$  is the linear dimension. This model  $V_L$  ratio with the greatest possible wind tunnel air velocity.

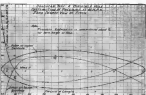


Fig. 3

curves come very below that of the full size ship, as model results are often plotted to a big  $V_L$  base and extrapolated for values of full size conditions.

For airships it is more appropriate to use  $(V/V_L)^2$  as a base instead of  $V_L$ .

The model measurements are also plotted against velocity on logarithmic paper and the slope of this line gives the exponent of the velocity according to which the resistance varies. For Fig. 1, lift, drag and drift coefficients are taken at various angles of deflection (yawing or yaw), then vector diagram can be

drawn which show graphically the resultant air forces in position, direction and amount.

Fig 2 shows the results of various tests on the Goodyear Pony Blimp type A ball (described in AVIATION, Jan. 15, 1929), namely, lift, drift and turning moments on level. Pressure distribution also the surface at 9 deg and 5 deg yaw, turning moments on full air ball, and performance

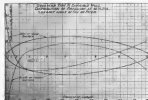


FIG. 4

results showing the estimated resistance of the complete airplane and the effective drag required at various speeds. It is to be observed by the propeller as shown in Figs. 3, 4, and 5. The resistance coefficient used here for calculating the resistance of the full air ball was obtained by extrapolation in Fig. 1. The actual test flight of the Pony Blimp was a good check on the accuracy of the estimated resistance of this structure.

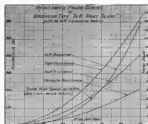


FIG. 5

#### Conclusions

The results of air ball tests were not only in improving the design of a ball, but also in determining proper structural exposed parts, developing efficient shapes, determining the proper air ball, manner of use of air ball and other surfaces and securing a good amount and position of the air ball in a ball case for the various parts of a flight.

They are very valuable in predicting the performance of aircraft, including the resistance, maximum and most economical

and speeds, the balance of the machine in flight and their dynamic stability.

It is, absolutely essential in designing propellers for any given machine and power plant, to know in advance the maximum speed which the machine can attain and the corresponding thrust at that speed in order that the propeller shall have the maximum possible efficiency and be most suitable. A performance estimate, based on results of wind tunnel tests on a machine of such a nature, of the various parts, is extremely useful in this connection.

It is impossible to estimate the number of lives which have been saved and the money expense which has been avoided in developing aircraft, by the proper application of results and principles determined by wind tunnel testing.

#### Aluminum Alloys

An interesting and highly informative lecture under the above title was given by Dr. Rosenbach at the Royal Society of Arts recently in London.

The lecturer outlined the work carried out at the National Physical Laboratory, Teddington, and elsewhere in connection with alloys containing various percentages of copper, tin and zinc, etc., and also the effects of casting and of heat treatment.

One of the important points mentioned was the improvement that takes place in alloy castings as they are aged. He stated that castings which had a tensile strength of 18.5 tons per sq. in. when, say, a few days old, gave up to 33.7 tons per sq. in. when used to further machine test pieces.

As regards heat treatment, an alloy containing 4 per cent zinc was improved to a remarkable extent by annealing, the tensile strength being increased from 10 to 25 tons per sq. in. and the elongation from 10 per cent to 20 per cent.

Dr. Rosenbach said that the great benefit gained from the use of aluminum plates in internal combustion engines, owing to the high thermal conductivity in comparison with iron or steel, is that the heat loss is reduced, and the engine is cooled, and that thermal conductivity was increased considerably by annealing.

As regards the so-called "growth" of aluminum plates in use, he stated in reply to a question, that as his experience such a thing did not exist, provided plates were properly annealed before fitting to the engine.

Aluminum subjected to severe working, poor performance as regards tensile strength in high temperatures, the figures falling from 13.5 tons at 50 deg. C. to 2.6 tons at 300 deg. C. As alloy containing 10 per cent copper fell from 12.5 tons to 4 tons at the same temperature in use, while the addition of 1 per cent of manganese improved the performance considerably, the figures being 10 tons at 250 deg. C.

For the purpose of resistance to shocks such as those endured by the aluminum in a period of one or other engine test, 5 per cent copper, 5 per cent tin, and 7.5 per cent zinc gave the best results.

The lecturer said that the improvements carried out in regard to aluminum alloy cylinder blocks fitted with steel liners. He pointed out that this system was essentially bad, owing to the effect of water diluting expansion ratios, also some having a ratio of expansion two and a half times as great as that of steel.

The work which had been accomplished in connection with the production of an all-aluminum airplane was also discussed. The lecturer exhibited samples of solid sheet aluminum which had been produced for this purpose, and pointed out that the weight of the metal for the covering for airplane wings, etc., was a third that of steel plates, with twice the strength. It was, however, not so stiff as steel for vibration purposes, but, although non-corrosive, of course, it was extremely easy to bend, and in the event of large stresses was so disposed the probability was that the wing would have some large sections bent or less likely, but reasonably little deformation.

A table was exhibited showing the work of a German all-aluminum airplane fitted with corrugated aluminum sheets on the wings.

A large variety of aluminum alloy castings, both the red and grey metal, were exhibited, and also portions of rapid sanding and grinding work.—Inventive Engineer.

## Adjustable Camber and Variable Angle of Incidence

By Thomas F. Leeman

The following is presented as merely a tentative discussion of the possibilities of adjustable camber and variable angle of incidence. While the subject needs further investigation, it is thought that these matters will arouse interest in the aviation and possibly encourage aerodynamical investigation of the subject.



There are three points in which the above arrangements would be advantageous—

1. The introduction of a deep cambered wing with attached lift surfaces at high speeds.
2. The obtaining of a low cambered wing with low lift and high efficiency at small angles and high speeds.
3. The maintenance of the propeller with the axis parallel to the line of flight, thereby a greater efficiency is gained.
4. The decrease in parasite resistance at climbing and high angles by maintaining the minimum resistance position of the fuselage at all angles.

There is no doubt, for instance, as shown in Fig. 1—the conventional fixed angle airplane in horizontal flight at a large angle of incidence—if the arrow S indicates the flight path while T represents the propeller shaft, that in the attitude the winging air creates the propeller due to an angle with a resulting direct loss in efficiency.



FIG. 2

There is also another possible disadvantage attaching to conventional fixed angle airplane. In airplanes having a fixed incidence angle, that part of the wing acted on by the slip stream at the propeller, has, at different incidences of the fuselage, (corresponding to different angles of incidence) a smaller nose or incidence angle than that part of the wing beyond the action of the propeller disc. The portion of the wing thus affected, was, in a small measure of the same type, as shown in one-fourth of the total wing span and this effect occurs at the outer or most efficient part of the wing and where the air velocity is highest. Furthermore, this difference is greatest at large angles of incidence where a high lift is most needed. To illustrate the above point, (like other diagrams, Fig. 2), we will assume an airplane in horizontal flight at a speed of 50 m.p.h. angle of incidence of 14 deg. and with a slipstream

velocity of 70 m.p.h. The wing chord, for convenience, is set parallel to the propeller shaft.

The resultant diagram is shown in the lower diagram, (Fig. 2) and gives an actual angle of incidence of only 8 deg. within the slipstream, while the wings are so readily at an angle of 14 deg. with the line of flight. This means a net loss, in this



FIG. 3

instance, of 6 deg. within the propeller disc. It would seem, if an airplane fitted with adjustable camber and variable incidence angle wings. We will assume for the purpose of comparison, the same conditions of high incidence and low speed as heretofore.

Fig. 3 and Fig. 4 show the role master of a purely hypothetical machine to illustrate the general characteristics of adjustable camber. It will be noted that a proper variation of camber is approximated in a simple manner by keeping the wing throughout its length, about parallel to the rear of the leading edge, thus giving rise a simultaneous change in incidence angle. No method of internal control is shown.

Disregarding the exposed form of wings and tail, which have no bearing on this discussion, the sketches show a machine of rather conventional design. The important points of difference are the adjustable camber feature and the shortening up of the fuselage, with necessarily larger tail surfaces than in normal practice.

Comparing now the adjustable camber machine with that of conventional type, we arrive at the following conditions:

- (1) The line of propeller shaft and line of flight become coincident for all angles of attack, with consequent added



FIG. 4

efficiency of the propeller and a general reduction in fuselage resistance.

- (2) The angle of incidence becomes constant, both within and outside of the slipstream, at all angles of the wing chord with the flight path, so long as the propeller shaft remains parallel to the latter.

In making a landing with this type of machine, the camber and incidence angle (relative to the line of propeller shaft) would be increased to a maximum of say 10 deg. When the tail was in contact with the ground, the angle of attack increases to about 20 deg. The airplane now comes over again, as the K factor is also much greater than it is at the critical angle by several degrees. The K factor is also much greater than it is at the critical angle, so that the wings themselves become a powerful factor, saving the machine to come to a quick stop after a landing is made.

It would seem, if the above arrangements are correct, that the advancement of the adjustable camber airplane has been somewhat improved, notwithstanding the usual structural difficulties inherent in this type and the expense necessary for its full development.

# The McCabe Sleeve

By I. E. McCabe

The McCabe Sleeve is a wire rope fastener applied by the use of mechanical means only and has been developed chiefly for use on aircraft. It is made up without the use of solder with attending dangers from acids, fumes and overheating and has working tolerances not difficult for the workman to maintain. Its resistance to both high and low temperatures under simple stresses for making up are followed and inspection is as easy as ordinary.

The sleeve itself is a complete construction comprising two parallel tubes, one of which is extended beyond the other, the extended portion being known as the snail. It is formed of

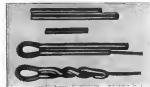


FIG. 1

TWO ILLUSTRATIONS SHOW THE McCABE SLEEVE, THE TWISTING, THE APPLICATOR BEING TWISTED, AND THE FINISHED SLEEVE.

specifically reflect about support by automatic machinery, leaving the tubes open to air, thoroughly polished to remove scale, and lined to prevent corrosion action upon the cable, and to secure a smooth surface to galvanize or flame coated. The finished product is inspected and gauged to insure against directly any variation of the cable.

Fig. 1 illustrates the 3/32 in. sleeve and thimble both before and after application and Fig. 2 the inside view.

The first operation, in the making up of McCabe joints, requires twisting the cable on each side of the place to be joined. This is done in a way. This is accomplished by the use of two or three wraps of soft wire the ends of which are tightly twisted together. This operation is necessary to prevent unraveling of the cable and to bind the ends of the strands closely for each service made the sleeve. The cable is then placed between sections of plates, shown in Fig. 2, and sheared.

The end of cable is first inserted into the short tube of sleeve at the snail end (see Fig. 1), the thimble wire is inserted slightly and the cable pushed through until it protrudes about 1/4 in. Care must be taken not to let it extend through too far or the strands will unravel. It is then threaded through the end thimble (see Fig. 1), and from that, using the same methods in present unraveling into the long tube up to the snail. The surplus cable, which has been pulled to the short tube to enable threading into the other, is now carefully pulled back and the end thimble is kept to the rear of the loop, during the operation, to prevent kinks or sharp bends in the cable which would lower the strength.

The joint is now ready to be twisted (see Fig. 1), and special jaws are applied (see Fig. 2). Care must be taken that correct chambers in the jaws are used, that the parallel sides of the jaws draw each other such that the edge of the jaws are exactly with the ends of double tubes of the strands at the central point between the tubes. The sleeve is then twisted one and one-fourth turns in such direction that the strands between the joints are twisted together. Twisting in the opposite direction tends to decrease the efficiency about 3 per cent.

It is essential that the twisting be done along the longitudinal axis of the sleeve. After the plates are removed, the joint is held in one hand while the snail is grasped, not more than half way from the end, by the nose of the pliers, and held in the other hand, with the thumb and forefinger, the snail is twisted in such direction that the rib on the snail is outside. This bend should be nearly 120 deg. and the snail is completed by being placed between the persons of the jaws across the hinge of pliers and crimped down tight against the main body of the sleeve.

The joint is now complete (see Fig. 1), and the inspection consists of examining the end of the snail to see that the cable is in sight and that the main strand down tight against the sleeve. It should also be noted that the sleeve is twisted properly, that is, in the right direction and along the longitudinal axis. Should, by any chance, the sleeve be faulty the defect will be shown by the surface of the snail.

The origin and development of this device began in the period when aviation was still in its infancy. The writer, while carrying on experimental work with gliders during 1913 and 1915, met with considerable difficulty in the use of piano wire, as so substituted cable and constructed fuselage tend to make up a satisfactory cable joint.

Having been previously occupied in telephone work and being familiar with the wire joints in use at that time, he secured a number of standard sleeves supplied for that purpose.



FIG. 2

THIN WALLS IN FINISHED WIRE McCABE SLEEVE

From these, by a number of experiments and tests made rather crudely on account of the limited apparatus at hand, he was able to evolve a type of joint which gave much better satisfaction than the several types he had previously used. The same was used in the form developed, during the following years, on two airplanes built by himself, and proved thoroughly dependable under severe usage.

The joint, as made at that time, was composed of a reduced length standard wire sleeve, twisted one and one-half turns. Instead of the snail as now used the cable itself was extended through the sleeve, bent back and tapped down with friction tape. This twisting of the cable permitted a reduction in the number of turns from three and one-half to one and one-half thereby shortening the sleeve about 1/2 in. per cent, cutting down both the weight and load resistance.

The stranded cable of the cable, although tight, had a ten-

dency to loosen frequently exposed, causing much discomfort and occasional damage to the workmen who happened to come in contact with them. Later the idea of the snail, as now used, was originated to overcome this and, upon patents being issued, the matter was taken up with the Frank B. Cook Co. of Chicago which had manufactured most of the sleeves previously used.

This concern has been engaged in the manufacture of wire connectors and sleeves of various types for nearly twenty years and further development was undertaken at its factory. A great many types of wire joints and sleeves were made and were available and, with the aid of these tools and an available bench work, some 6,000 or more samples of McCabe Sleeves of various types, wire gauges, and materials were made and tested under varying conditions during 1916 and 1917 by the writer.

Weight is a factor and also the question of air resistance which is a factor in many cases. Comparatively, the McCabe joint is a much lighter joint. Comparatively, the weight of a standard wire joint is much heavier than the weight of a McCabe joint, in half the length and weighs less than the standard wire connector of the same diameter.

In the early tests, breaking of the cable was thought to be a serious evidence of strength, especially as the lowest strength occurred in the region of its rated strength. Later this was found to be a fallacy and therefore, all tests were made comparative to test loops of cable from the same and under the same conditions, and the same and added types of terminals.

As previously mentioned the experimental samples were partially hand formed and the consequent irregularities in the wire made it difficult to compare the results of the tests. From five to ten loops of each sample of sleeve were usually twisted at a time. The tools for twisting also have much bearing on this.

The knowledge of these facts necessitated the adoption of methods of manufacture which would not permit a sleeve to vary from close limits, and also the design of tools for the purpose of simplifying the operations in making up the joint and solving certain other mechanical details that were in efficiency.

There are several types of terminals which have high efficiency when made up properly, but many methods are unable to work within tolerances that make the use of many types of cable terminals, especially in the case of those to which the cable is attached, such that the tolerances must be extremely small. In the McCabe joint these are maintained usually in its construction and the use of the same in applying it is made possible with most of the types now in use.

In developing tools for making up the joint consideration was given the suggestions of prospectors upon that a set of plates, consisting of two parts, be made and used to perform the necessary operations in all the seven sizes of sleeve which were being developed, that they might be made a part of the airplane's tool kit.

This requirement for the cable be included in the tool and previous experience had shown that a standard type of forging was required to give service. Also this same type of forging permits a lighter construction, which is of moment if it be a part of the airplane's equipment.

The matter was taken up with Mathias Klein & Sons of Chicago, and with their cooperation various forms were made and tried out, leading to the design of the present type of tool which have been adopted with slight modifications in the shape of the handle.

A set of Klein's Ames pliers, as now supplied, is sufficient for the majority of all sizes of piano wire made, with possibly the use of a small pair of Barlow's pliers to be used in cutting the end and for the handle and for tying the cable. A form of bench tool, which is very convenient where a vice is at hand, is used for the purpose of making the joint under the same conditions as the sleeve as the sleeve may be held in it while the cable is inserted, allowing both hands for this operation as well as for the twisting. A single movement of the handle down causes the handle to pull the cable down and a reverse movement opposite releases. The handle of the pliers is supplied with a locking device of the familiar lock type not so rapid in operation as the other.

Another problem, great in the investigation, was the prevention of corrosion within the joint itself. The chemical engaged in this investigation found the previous experience of

the Frank B. Cook Co. in its own wire joint to be the most satisfactory and therefore dependable as the conditions are similar and it was more favorable for the McCabe sleeve in its field.

While the investigation was being conducted, attention was made among a number of customers in the telephone field who had been using the wire sleeve for a number of years. These were made for the purpose of securing a comparison of the cable which had been in use over a period of years, that their condition might be observed. Some samples were covered which were made by the same process and some were made by the same process of the wire to which it was attached indicated them. In spite of the fact that the wire outside the sleeve had rusted severely, the wire inside was found intact with the exception of some small spots of corrosion. The joint would not suffer with the conductivity of the line, there was no loss of the telephone lines today in thousands of miles after years of service, completely justifies the adoption of the same method to make up the joint in the case of the McCabe sleeve. As a matter of fact, the same method is used in the case of the McCabe sleeve as in the case of the standard type of terminal, especially if not been used in the process of soldering.

Comparable efficiency of the wire thimble, based upon a similar type used in the service and soldered terminal and, some displaced by the type now used, has been offered. Instead of a soft wire, however, a tempered and galvanized wire is used, which is much stronger and more resistant to corrosion. The soft wire failed to meet. The combination with the sleeve presents a neat appearance and in its use materially in simplifying the operation of attaching the cable through the sleeve. Comparison of the standard form of the sleeve shows no appreciable difference in the same up to and including 1/4 in., differing approximately 100 per cent efficiency. A single drop in the efficiency is found in the two largest sizes and the same are being made.

Under Table I will be found data on the several sizes now developed. The limit in the cable diameters are given as well as the rated strength. Also, under the head of maximum load, figures are given which are the highest that have been obtained in the tests made and are not to be considered as the actual performance of the cable. Although generally covered in tests the rated strength of the cable is the most reliable basis to use from the tests. The figures are given in terms of the capacity of the McCabe joint. The table of weights are for the sleeve only and the length of the sleeve after it is twisted. The length of the double tube portion before twisting is approximately the same as the length of the sleeve.

Table II is a report of a test in 3/32 in. cable made for the purpose of securing data regarding elongation of the McCabe sleeve as compared with the screw and soldered and the open end types of joints. This was made at the Robert W. Hunt and Co.'s laboratory in Chicago. The test was made on a testing machine. The head had a maximum velocity of 1/4 in. per sec. The nature of the tests are such that a smaller machine with a lower velocity is preferable but at the time it was not available.

It will be noticed that the McCabe joint has greater elongation than the other two types, especially up to the elastic limit of the cable, which was found to be approximately 75 per cent of the breaking strength. The breaking strength of the cable from the first loop tested. The stresses strain cable has been included in the Report in the First Annual Report of the Advisory Committee for Aeronautics approximately one and one-third times the breaking strength of the cable. The breaking strength of the cable is about 1/4 in. of the cable. The additional elasticity is the main reason for its use in place of solder wire. Solder strain does not create the same tension, because, during the additional movement allowed, a portion of the strain is absorbed in the solder, reducing the strain to be resisted. Vibrations of the same strain will be not put in back a strain on the cable as the wire then reducing fatigue and crystallization.

One other point to be noted is the added advantage of still greater elasticity which provides loading the parts to the tension desired to maintain the machine in movement and still allow a reserve movement to absorb shock and vibration.

Not being restricted, the cable may be used in any way and there is no chance for vibration to become, as sometimes occurs with cables which have been soldered at the







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